



## Mobile Communications

### A Newsletter from Wearside Communications

#### Schools' Edition

Happy New Year and welcome to our January edition of 'Mobile Communications', our newsletter from Wearside Communications.

Two way radios have become a vital asset for many schools and this will give some information on radios' usefulness and what is available.

This month we are looking at schools and their mobile communications needs. For years now, many schools and colleges have recognised the advantages, or even the necessity, of having some sort of mobile contact between staff, whether security, maintenance or teaching staff.

When a school identifies the need for mobile communications, there are several systems to choose from. We work closely with the school, giving advice and guidance, to ensure that the system provided is exactly what the school needs for their particular concerns.

Radios not only enhance security, they also prove an effective tool in the day-to-day running of the school.

#### Free Offer for Sunderland LEA Schools:

Do you have two way radios that you are not getting the best out of? Have you got some put away in a cupboard because they weren't working properly? Call us on 0191 5172889 or email to [alan.davies@wearside.biz](mailto:alan.davies@wearside.biz). Ask for the free offer and we will arrange a free visit to your school to test and assess your radios.

No cost, no catch. Offer applies to any school, college or university in the North East of England. We will arrange a convenient appointment for an engineer to visit and give an honest appraisal of your radios, with a written follow-up report.

He will not give a sales pitch, we won't press you to have them repaired and won't ask you to buy new ones. You get some useful information on valuable assets. We get to understand more fully the needs and problems that schools experience with their communications.

#### The Entel HX Series



The new Entel HX400 series radios (Licensed PBR) are packed with features and accessories ideal for the busy school. Selective calling, panic alert, emergency alarm and lapel microphones are all useful to school radios.



Prices start at around £180 and include a fast charger. Radios can be supplied with standard or stubby aerials in the pack.



Wearside Communications Limited  
Unit 1, Hetton Lyons Ind Est, Hetton Le Hole,  
Houghton Le Spring, Co Durham, DH5 0RH  
[www.wearside.biz](http://www.wearside.biz)



## Examples of Radio Systems for Schools and Universities



Doro WT81  
A licence-free radio (PMR446)  
Very small and neat

**PMR 446.** This is a low-cost unlicensed radio system, adequate for some small schools or for field trips away from the school. The price of these radios is the attraction, and they are generally a smaller radio than the licensed radios. However for a greater range, more secure communications and clearer audio, one should choose the licensed option. The working life of a PMR446 walkie talkie is generally a lot less than licensed PBR two way radios. Because of the lower transmit power, and hence the smaller batteries, PMR446 radios can be smaller and lighter than licensed. Interference from other users might be a problem as anyone can use the channels.

**Licensed PBR.** A licensed radio system (Private Business Radio), will give you a radio channel of your own to make interference and eavesdropping far more unlikely. The higher transmit power of these radios, around 10 times the power of a PMR446 radio, gives a greater reception range (greater, but not 10 times greater!) and better quality loudspeakers and audio circuits will give clearer speech. A wide range of accessories are available, such as remote lapel microphones, headsets, earpieces and multi-chargers. The radios are repairable if they get damaged and have more features than PMR446. Digital radios are also available.

Many schools require some privacy between radio users, and want staff members to be ready to receive a call but not hear everything going on over the radio system (e.g. if they are in class or exam room). **Individual selective calling**, selcall, where the radios can call one other radio without others hearing, is available as an option on PBR radios. Selcall radios can still call groups of radios, or the whole system, if they wish.

**Talkthrough Radio System.** For larger premises, even the licensed radios may not give full radio penetration. To get radio coverage throughout the premises, sometimes a central base station is required to rebroadcast the messages via an external aerial. This can be connected to the telephone system for radio calls to telephones.

**Mobile Phones.** When many people think of mobile communications, they think of the familiar mobile phone. Indeed, for many purposes, they are the best and most cost-effective solution. If that is the case for your school, and the school has good network coverage, then mobile phones are what we will recommend and provide. One drawback with mobile phones is the lack of immediate contact and the inability to call many users at once. For this reason, it is usually not the correct solution for security concerns.

While mobile phones often work in most places, if your school does not have good mobile coverage, there's little you can do apart from change network. This isn't an option if you're locked in to a contract.

## Introduction to Wearside Communications Ltd

Wearside Communications was formed 26<sup>th</sup> January 1986, originally as Cartel Phones, and became a limited company in August 1991.

Founder and Managing Director, Alan Davies, has 41 years of mobile communications experience, beginning as a Radio Engineer in the RAF and in 1982 was awarded a silver medal from the City and Guilds of London Institute in Radio and Television.

Wearside Communications are built on this engineering base and pride ourselves in our technical ability and the radio knowledge of our staff. We are a member of the Federation of Communications Services. The FCS is the Trade Association for businesses delivering communications products and services to customers in the UK.

Working from our large electronics workshop in Hetton-le-Hole, our service and installation team are fully trained to enable them to repair radio equipment down to component level. This, coupled with our extensive stock of parts and components, ensure repairs are turned around with minimal delays.

We have extensive experience in schools with their mobile communications, having supplied over 1,000 radios to schools in the north.

With over 24 years in business, Wearside have helped clients from many industries with their communications requirements, including local authorities, leisure centres, schools, colleges, shopping centres, security companies, manufacturing plants and Sunderland Football Club.

If your assembly hall is struggling with its PA system, why not call us to have a look. Our electronics expertise will put it right for you. There's nothing more frustrating than being at the back of the hall not being able to hear what's going on.

### Waterproof Walkie Talkies

Doro WT91X Pro (Unlicensed PMR446), IPx7 waterproof rating, all-weather use with a range of up to a mile in ideal conditions.



**£82.99 a pair, including charging station, no licence fee or airtime/call charges.**

Doro offer a fine range of Walkie Talkies.

### Our Products

- ◆ Two Way Radios
- ◆ Walkie Talkies
- ◆ Mobile Phones
- ◆ Electronic repairs
- ◆ Vehicle Tracking
- ◆ Website hosing
- ◆ Service & installation
- ◆ Sales & Service



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## Wearside Communications make sure college staff get the message



New and renovated schools and colleges understand the benefits of radio communications. Wearside Communications have supplied to Finchale Training College, New College Durham (pictured left) following extensive modernisation, and the new East Durham College in Peterlee.

Brighton Avenue Primary School in Gateshead, St Godrick's Primary School in Durham, and the recently built Academy 360 in Sunderland are a small sample of local schools that use our radios.

### Instant communications between staff on a school premises can be vital to security, safety and efficiency of the organization by offering:

- Staff communications, including duty staff
- Administration communications
- Automatic alarm (fire/security) alerts
- Sports Field communications.
- Health and Safety, instant accident reporting
- Trip/Expedition communications
- Grounds and maintenance communications
- Caretaker and site manager
- Security communications
- Pupil safety, dealing with trespassers
- Fire or evacuation communications
- Dinner and playground staff

### Features that can be applied to radios are:

- Emergency button - sends an alarm tone heard by all
- Selective calling - to speak with a single person or a particular group of users
- Man-down - this will send an alarm tone if the person is reclined
- Lone worker - will send an alarm tone if the user does not respond to a periodic alert beep
- Channel scanning - makes sure that you do not miss a call by being on the wrong channel

## [www.wearside.biz](http://www.wearside.biz)

Keep up to date with current offers, promotions and news at our new-look website. Alan has been busy updating and tweaking the site to make it as informative as possible. Any feedback or comments are greatly appreciated. Make sure you bookmark us, so as not to miss out on special offers! There is a lot of information on the website for schools — [www.wearside.biz/school\\_radios.html](http://www.wearside.biz/school_radios.html).

## Your Wearside Contacts

Sales (MD)  
Administration  
Service Manager  
Telephone  
Fax  
e-mail

Alan Davies  
Beryl Lee  
Paul Holt  
0191 5170888 / 5172889  
0191 5179666  
[alan.davies@wearside.biz](mailto:alan.davies@wearside.biz)